

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Lit # \_\_\_\_\_

Book Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Author: \_\_\_\_\_

## **“LETTER TO THE EDITOR” BOOK REVIEW**



**\*DUE DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ \*

Being willing to recognize the perspectives of others and being able to understand or share their feelings is extremely important in helping to promote equality and peace in our society today. For this review, you will be *taking on the persona* of a MAIN CHARACTER in your book, and writing a letter to the Editor of your school newspaper **AS THIS CHARACTER**, informing other students why it is important to not prejudge you (1<sup>st</sup> person narrative). You must explain who you *really* are (not simply who others perceive you as from the outside). Then, your character will have to take a stance on the following: “If I traveled back in time to the sixties, I would be either a *GREASER* or *SOCIAL*” and explain why you, **as this character**, would make this choice. This book review format will have TWO parts, and will be finished in Microsoft Word (fully typed, double spaced, Times New Roman, 12 pt font).

### **PART 1: WRITING A “DEAR EDITOR” ARTICLE: [65 points: completeness and quality of thought]**

- **THE TOP** of your document should include the title (underlined), *author*, and *setting* of your novel. **BELOW** the title/author/setting should be a unique *headline* for your article (relevant to your particular character and his or her self-identity/cultural identity). **THE BEGINNING** of the article should start with “Dear Editor,” followed by a brief *introduction of yourself (as a main character)* and explanation of what is going on in your life (a mini plot summary-do **not** include ending!) [1 paragraph]
- Following this is the lengthiest section of your article; it is here that you must include:
  1. Who are YOU? What is your self-identity? Provide proof. How might this differ from who others’ perceive you to be?
  2. Name a cultural group to which you belong. How do you fit into this cultural group? How do you stand out from the rest of the members of this group? Explain how your self-identity is impacted by your *cultural identity*.
  3. Finally, if you were living in the sixties, during the time of *The Outsiders*, which cultural group (either the **Greasers** or the **Socials**) would you fit in with best? Why do you think you would fit in with this group rather than its rival gang? Provide proof.
- **THE END** of the article should be your closing statement of *why it is important that other students recognize you for being MORE than what they can judge in a first impression*.

**PART 2: VISUALS: [15 points: creative & relevant to your character]:** On the second page of your Word document, you must include **3 images** (clip art, photographs, etc) that represent your character and his or her self-identity and/or cultural identity. Under each image, you must provide a brief explanation as to what this image represents and why it is important to you (**as this character**).

### **OVERALL mechanics, grammar: [10 points] & QUALITY [10 points]**

\*Have fun, and be creative with your design! For those looking for extra points, you may style your article in “newspaper” format with multiple columns on one page (rather than a more traditional essay format).

\*INDIVIDUALIZED FOR YOU: With teacher permission, in advance, you may choose to create this book review in a different format. It is up to you to see me *in advance* to “pitch your idea” for approval.

**Student:** I understand this assignment and expect that I will earn a grade of \_\_\_\_\_, because \_\_\_\_\_

I know it is my responsibility to share this information with my parent/guardian.

Parent/guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name:

Lit #

**DEAR EDITOR BOOK REVIEW**

**due: Tuesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012**

<b>TASK</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>self eval.</b>	<b>teacher eval.</b>
<b><u>WRITTEN COMPONENT (65 pts)</u></b>			
<b>HEADER [5]</b>			
Book title (underlined), author, setting	<b>3</b>	_____	_____
-Headline (relevant to character & his or her self-identity/cultural identity)	<b>2</b>	_____	_____
<b>INTRODUCTION [20]</b>			
-“Dear Editor,” salutation	<b>2</b>	_____	_____
-Brief introduction of who “you” are (your <i>chosen character</i> )	<b>9</b>	_____	_____
-mini plot summary (in relation to this character, & <b>NO</b> ending!)	<b>9</b>	_____	_____
<b>IDENTITY [30]</b>			
-Explain who you are, specifically your self-identity (wills, thinks, desires) and provide PROOF	<b>10</b>	_____	_____
-Name a <b>culture</b> you are a part of (ab <sup>2</sup> c) How do you fit into this cultural group? How do you stand out from this group? How is your self-identity impacted by your cultural identity?	<b>10</b>	_____	_____
-Which cultural group ( <b>Greasers</b> or <b>Socials</b> ) would you belong with and WHY? Proof!	<b>10</b>	_____	_____
<b>CONCLUSION [10]</b>			
-Explain why understanding another person’s perspective/emotions is important (for you as the character)	<b>10</b>	_____	_____
<b><u>VISUALS [15]</u></b>			
-3 images relevant to character and his or her self-identity/cultural identity	<b>7</b>	_____	_____
-brief explanation of reason behind each visual	<b>8</b>	_____	_____
<b><u>QUALITY [10]</u></b>			
-high level of thought, accuracy & insight	<b>10</b>	_____	_____
<b><u>Final Format/Mechanics [10]</u></b>			
Correct: spelling, capitals, grammar, punctuation, complete sentences, paragraphs/organization, double spaced/typed, TNR, 12 pt font	<b>10</b>	_____	_____
<b>TOTAL POINTS:</b>	<b>100</b>	_____	_____
*Bonus for creativity and work above and beyond		_____	_____